GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:3
ANSWERED ON:15.11.2007
ADULTERATION IN PETROL DIESEL AND KEROSENE
Singh Deo Smt. Sangeeta Kumari

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the arrangements that exist for detecting adulterations in petrol, diesel and kerosene oil in the country along with the name of agencies nominated for this purpose;

(b) total number of cases of adulteration detected by the said agencies during last three years;

(c) the reasons for the existence of adulteration cases even after making these arrangements;

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the fresh steps taken by the Government with regard thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 3 BY SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.11.2007 REGARDING ADULTERATION IN PETROL, DIESEL AND KEROSENE.

(a): As per the provisions of the Motor Spirit and High Speed Diesel (Regulation of Supply, Distribution and Prevention of Malpractices) Order, 2005 any Gazetted Officer of the Central Government or a State Government or any Police Officer not below the rank of Deputy Superintendent of Police, by general or special order of the Central Government or a State Government as the case may be, or any officer of the Oil Company not below the rank of Sales Officer has the power of search and seizure and to draw the sample to check whether density and other parameters of the product conform to the requirements of Bureau of Indian Standard specifications. Government has requested the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations to take steps to control adulteration by exercising power vested under the Control Order issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) also undertake regular and surprise inspection of Retail Outlets and take action for terminati

(i) Keeping in view the misuse/diversion of SKO for adulteration, the import of SKO by private parties has been canalized through OMCs.

(ii) OMCs have created a separate wing to overview and monitor all activities of curbing adulteration.

(iii) A pilot project, viz., Jan Kerosene Pariyojna is operational in 414 blocks since 02.10.2005. The project is aimed at streamlining the PDS Kerosene distribution system and preventing diversion of kerosene.

(b): The number of cases of suspected adulteration detected by OMCs during last three years is as under:

Year	Number of cases of suspected adulteration
2004-05	225
2005-06	229
2006-07	187

(c): In spite of the above-cited measures, the possibility of adulteration of petrol/diesel by some unscrupulous elements cannot be ruled out due to huge price difference between petrol /diesel and various adulterants available in the market and the easy miscibility of these products with petrol/diesel.

(d)&(e): In order to check adulteration, the Government has taken a number of additional initiatives viz., Automation of Retail Outlets, Third party certification of Retail Outlets, Monitoring of movement of tank trucks through Global Positioning System (GPS), Use of

Marker in Kerosene, Revision of MDG etc.